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To Whom It May Concern:

We started with the Family Resource Center when my daughter was seven months old.

I have been blown away by all the amazing work that they do with the children on a daily basis. We really enjoyed it when playgroup was five days a week and are devastated that it had to go down to four days a week.

New London is as far as I would consider a disadvantaged town with not a lot going on for those with young children.

The playgroup has been our lifeline here. As a low income family we have been provided with so many opportunities that otherwise would not have been available to us if the playgroup was not available.

The children get an opportunity to improve their gross motor skills, fine motor skills, experience socialization, and crafts on a daily basis. They have guest people from NESS very often.

They provide questionnaires for the parents to check on the child's development and if a child is weak in an area, suggested activities are worked on with the child.

As well as this being an extremely important playgroup for our children it is also important for the parents socially. I have made some wonderful friends through this group.

The atmosphere is always wonderful. The teachers do so much preparation behind the scenes for the classes every day and this is obvious in how smooth the classes go. They interact with the children and assist the children when help is needed.

Personally, I have had the opportunity to work with some of the Parent Educators on a one to one basis who provides our family with assistance on my child's development.

The only suggestion I would have is that the snacks provided could be healthier for the children. There is no need for children so young to be having food with added sugar in their diet. Water would be better for their teeth than sugar juices. Plain yogurt would be so much healthier than sugary yogurts. It starts them off on future bad and poor eating habits.

The FRC and playgroup has been an invaluable LIFELINE for our family. My child has thrived here and I look forward to watching her thrive even more in the future. Please do not cut the funding for this program.

Kind regards,

Eithne Moran

Parent of C. Ramsay